(c) and (d) Instances of inferior quality, unhygienic, sub-standard meals and other irregularities brought to the notice of Government are ivestigated through respective State Government/UT Administrations. In order to avoid recurrence of such complaints, Government has prescribed a comprehensive and elaborate mechanism for monitoring and supervision of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme.

At national level, National Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee is monitoring and reviewing the implementation of MDM Programme. Similarly, at State level, a State level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee reviews and monitors implementation of the programme. .

(e) For successful implementation of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya programmes, a regular and intensive monitoring system has been put in place to ensure proper implementation.

Shortage of teachers

169. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have come across any case of closure of State Government aided schools due to shortage of teachers;

(b) if so, whether any measures in the form of directing the States for recruiting the teachers are being taken/proposed to be taken to improve the situation in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details of the total number of Government aided schools closed and the number of those revived through the initiatives of the Government in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) The Government aided schools of Andhra Pradesh come under the purview of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, and not under the purview of the Central Government.

Central Madarsa Board

170. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether to modernise and upgrade some 2,500 madarsas across the country as recommended by Sachar Committee, Government have finalised the draft of the proposed Central Madarsa Board Act, 2007;

(b) whether the Board is likely to function on the lines of Central Board of Secondary Education; and

(c) the funding pattern for the proposed Madarsa Board including the seed money (corpus)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Reservation for women

171. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission's working group has recommended 33 per cent reservation for women, in all UTs, IIMs, Central universities and other higher and technical educational institutes and a caste-based census on the basis of which future policies can be framed;

(b) if so. the other main recommendations made by the group; and

(c) how many of its recommendations have, so far. been accepted and implemented'[1]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI); (a) to (c) A final view has not been taken on the recommendations of the Working Group on "Development of Education of SC/ST/Minorities/Girls and other Disadvantaged Groups" for Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012) constituted by the Planning Commission.

Enrolment in higher education

† 172. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a target has been fixed to make an increase of upto 15 per cent of admissions in the higher education in the coming years in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether any plan has also been formulated to achieve this target;

(d) if so. the target of establishing universities and colleges in the country under this plan during 2007-08 and 2008-09; and

(e) the grounds to be given priority to establish new additional universities and colleges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) is proposed to be increased to 15% by the end of the XI Plan (2011-2012).

(c) to (e) Public investments are expected to be enhanced during Eleventh Five Year Plan, both for establishing new colleges and new universities as well as for strengthening the existing institutions. Central universities. State Universities and Colleges will be supported for crerating adequate infrastructure in order to address the concerns of quality, access and equity in higher education.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi